



BOROUGH OF ALTRINCHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1961

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor G. Harmer, J.P. - Chairman.
Councillor H. Wharton, J.P. - Vice-Chairman.

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G. Hoyle.
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R. Street.
L.B. Wilson.
W. Yates.
D. W. Willeringhouse.

OFFICIALS

D. Longbottom, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	- Medical Officer of Health <u>died 14.9.61.</u>
E.H. Gordon, M.D., D.P.H.	- Acting Medical Officer of Health from 14.9.61 to 28.2.62.
M. Dickinson, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.	- Chief Public Health Inspector.
A.A. Wild, A.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.A.P.H.I.	- Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.
A. Simons.	- Additional Public Health Inspector.
Mrs. C.B. Hargreaves.	- Clerk.
R.C. Webb.	- Student Public Health Inspector left 31.7.61.
D.A. Reynolds.	- Student Public Health Inspector commenced 18.9.61.
J.E. Crickmore, C.R.S.I.	- Part-Time Public Health Inspector.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Altrincham.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This is the first Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances in the Borough of Altrincham that I have compiled and presented to you. Dr. Donald Longbottom was your Medical Officer of Health from November, 1948, to 14th September, 1961, and Dr. Gordon was Acting Medical Officer of Health from 14th September, 1961, until I took over my appointment on 1st March, 1962. It is, therefore, their statistics and influence upon the health of the Borough that I will interpret.

There is no doubt that in the untimely death of Dr. Longbottom, the Borough lost a valued and sound advisor. During the interim period before taking up my appointment, Dr. Gordon acted as Medical Officer of Health both for this district as well as his own. My grateful thanks are due to him for my being able to take up my duties confident that 'all was well'.

The estimated mid-year population decreased by 150 as compared with 1960. There were 692 births during the year which was 28 less than the 710 in 1960. Although there were less births, there was also a reduced mortality: 27 less deaths than the previous year. Of the 478 deaths: 71 were due to diseases affecting the blood vessels in the brain (compared with 92 in 1960); and 68 were due to coronary artery diseases in the heart (compared with 87 in 1960); and 73 were due to other heart diseases (64 in 1960). Despite the general decrease over the previous year, diseases of the heart and blood vessels still accounted for nearly 50% of all deaths.

I must, however, draw attention to several disquieting increases: viz:- deaths from carcinoma of the lung maintained a steady increase: 27 compared with 22 in 1960 and 25 in 1959; males were again more affected: 23 compared to 4 females. There was an over 50% increase in female deaths from carcinoma of the breast (13 compared with 6 in 1960 and 5 in 1959) and death from carcinoma of the uterus increased to 11 from 8 in 1960 and 4 in 1959. There were, however, improvements in certain of the malignant conditions e.g. deaths from other malignant diseases fell from 49 in 1960 to 33 in 1961 and there was only one death from Leukaemia as compared with four the previous year.

The increase in deaths from bronchitis, pneumonia, and influenza were associated with the influenzal outbreak in the early months of the year.

It is sad, however, to report that deaths from congenital malformations increased from 3 to 5. This is all the more disturbing when it is remembered that it was discovered nationally in 1961 that the drug 'Thalidomide' used for the treatment of vomiting in pregnancy was associated with many malformations that occurred from 1961 onwards. Of these 5 Altrincham deaths, 2 occurred in babies with the sort of deformity produced by this drug.

Another disturbing tendency, was the increase in fatalities due to motor vehicle accidents: (9 compared with 6 in 1960 and 4 in 1959). These figures do not include

those unfortunate people who are maimed and injured, often for life. With the progressive increase in road traffic, it is anticipated that this cause of death will tend to increase year by year.

The most important features in infectious disease were:- The measles epidemic (810 cases), the peak of which was reached in February. There were 2 deaths attributed to measles during this period.

There was an interesting outbreak of Paratyphoid Fever, phage type Taunton in the Manchester area during April, 1961: 3 of the cases being residents in Altrincham. The vehicle of infection was thought to be 'lemon buns' prepared in a Manchester bakery, and sold from branch shops (one of which was in Altrincham). The source of the Salmonellae was thought to be due to cross infection within the bakery from either infected liquid egg or desiccated coconut.

There was only one case of poliomyelitis during the year: this was a non-paralytic case occurring in a boy aged 8 years who had not been protected by poliomyelitis vaccine.

During the year, progress was made on Slum Clearance in that 177 unfit dwelling houses in the Newtown Compulsory Purchase Order were confirmed by the Minister as being unfit. This is an extremely important method of achieving positive health. There should be no excuse for bad housing in a Borough of this size and I am convinced that an energetic drive by all concerned will, in the future, solve Altrincham's slum problem.

Associated with bad housing is the problem of smoke pollution. Altrincham has made a start with 5 Smoke Control areas of which areas 4 and 5 were confirmed by the Minister and were operational from 1st July, 1962. Again, it should be the aim to make Altrincham a complete smoke control area. The increases in respiratory diseases especially bronchitis and carcinoma of the lung should convince even the most ardent opponent that priority should be given to these necessities for a clean and healthy life.

In conclusion, I am grateful to Mr. Dickinson, my Chief Public Health Inspector and to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal and efficient service to the late Dr. Longbottom, Dr. Gordon and latterly to myself.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

WILFRID H. PARRY, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

(Appointed 1st March, 1962).

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GENERAL FEATURES OF THE BOROUGH.

The Borough is situated in the northern part of Mid-Cheshire some 8 miles south of Manchester.

The total population in accordance with the Registrar General's Estimate is ~~41,030~~.

There is a considerable industrial area containing several large engineering works of world wide repute, and a number of smaller concerns and factories, providing employment for approximately 17,000.

A fair proportion of the population is residential, with business interests in Manchester, Salford and other towns.

The main shopping centre and public market provide facilities for a large number of people from adjoining districts.

The public market is held on Tuesday and Saturday of each week and is well patronised by shoppers from a very wide area.

The Municipality provides Public Libraries and Public Swimming Baths. There is an 18 hole Municipal Golf Course, Tennis Courts, Recreation Grounds all of which provide wide open spaces in the Borough.

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GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District in acres	-	3,519.
Number of inhabited houses	-	13,916.
Rateable Value (31st December, 1961)	-	£597,640.
Product of a penny rate	-	£2,456. 7. 5d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>1961.</u>	<u>1960</u> <u>COMPARISON.</u>
Registrar General's Estimate of total population,	41,030.	41,180.
Live births,	692.	710.
Live birth rate per 1,000	16.8.	17.5.
Still births,	13.	10.
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births,	18.4.	13.9.
Total live and still births,	705.	720.
Infant deaths,	16.	17.
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births total,	23.1.	23.6.
" " " " " " " legitimate,	24.1.	24.9.
" " " " " " " illegitimate,	-	-
Neo Natal " " " " " " "		
(first four weeks),	12.	13.
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births,	3.9.	3.9.
Death Rate per 1,000 population,	11.6.	12.3.

	<u>1961.</u>	<u>1960</u> <u>COMPARISON.</u>
Maternal deaths (including abortion),	-	-
" Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births,	-	-
Deaths from cancer (all forms),	63.	64.
" " of the lung,	27.	22.
" " Tuberculosis,	-	2.
" " Poliomyelitis,	-	-
Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth,	-	-
Deaths from accidents (all types),	12.	11.
Motor accidents,	9.	6.
Deaths from other notifiable infectious diseases,	2.	-
Total number of deaths from all causes,	478.	505.

TABLE I.
Live Births.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>1961</u> <u>Total.</u>	<u>Comparison</u> <u>1960 Total.</u>
Legitimate births,	344	321	665	682
Illegitimate,	15	12	27	28
Totals,	<u>359</u>	<u>333</u>	<u>692</u>	<u>710</u>

TABLE II.
Still Births.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>1961</u> <u>Total.</u>	<u>Comparison</u> <u>1960 Total.</u>
Legitimate births,	6	7	13	10
Illegitimate,	-	-	-	-
Totals,	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>

TABLE III.
Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>1961</u> <u>Total.</u>	<u>Comparison</u> <u>1960 Total.</u>
Legitimate births,	11	5	16	17
Illegitimate,	-	-	-	-
Totals,	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>

Deaths of Infants Under 4 Weeks of Age.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>1961</u> <u>Total.</u>	<u>Comparison</u> <u>1960 Total.</u>
Legitimate births,	9	3	12	13
Illegitimate,	-	-	-	-
Totals,	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>

Causes of Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age.

Heart Disease,	2.
Pneumonia,	1.
Peritonitis,	1.

Causes of Deaths of Infants under 4 Weeks of Age.

Atelectasis,	2.	Cerebral Haemorrhage,	1.
Hydrops Foetalis,	1.	Congenital Pneumonia,	2.
Prematurity,	4.	Rhesus Incompatibility,	1.
Broncho Pneumonia,	1.		

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TABLE IV.

Diseases Notified During 1961.

<u>Notifiable Diseases.</u>	<u>Number of Cases Notified During 1961.</u>	<u>Comparison 1960.</u>
Measles,	810.	134.
Diphtheria (including Membraneous Group),	-	-
Erysipelas,	-	3.
Scarlet Fever,	20.	15.
Whooping Cough,	8.	36.
Puerperal Pyrexia,	2.	1.
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis,	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum,	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis,	9.	15.
Other forms of Tuberculosis,	-	2.
Pneumonia,	23.	15.
Chicken Pox,	-	-
Poliomyelitis (Non Par),	1.	-
Food Poisoning,	2.	-
Acute Polioencephalitis,	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica,	-	-
Dysentery,	1.	-
Meningococcal Infection,	-	6.
Gastro Enteritis,	-	1.
Paratyphoid Fever,	3.	-
Total	-	-
	<u>879.</u>	<u>228.</u>

TABLE V.

Summary of Infectious Diseases by Age, other than Tuberculosis.

Age in Years	0/1	1/2	2/5	5/10	10/15	15/25	25/45	45/65	65 & Over	Age Unknown	Total
Measles,	27	80	378	305	7	1	5			7	810
Scarlet Fever,	1	1	4	13		1					20
Whooping Cough,		1	6	1							8
Pneumonia,			1		1		4	8	9		23
Dysentery,							1				1
Food Poisoning,				1				1			2
Erysipelas,											-
Meningococcal Infection,											-
Puerperal Pyrexia,							2				2
Gastro Enteritis,											-
Poliomyelitis (Non Par)				1							-
Paratyphoid Fever,					1	1	1				2
Totals,	28	82	389	321	9	3	13	9	9	7	870

TABLE VI.

Summary of Notifications received and Deaths due to
Diphtheria during the years 1931 - 1961

Year.	Total Cases.	Total Deaths.
1931/1940,	290	15
1941/1951,	9	-
1952/1961,	NIL	NIL

Measles.

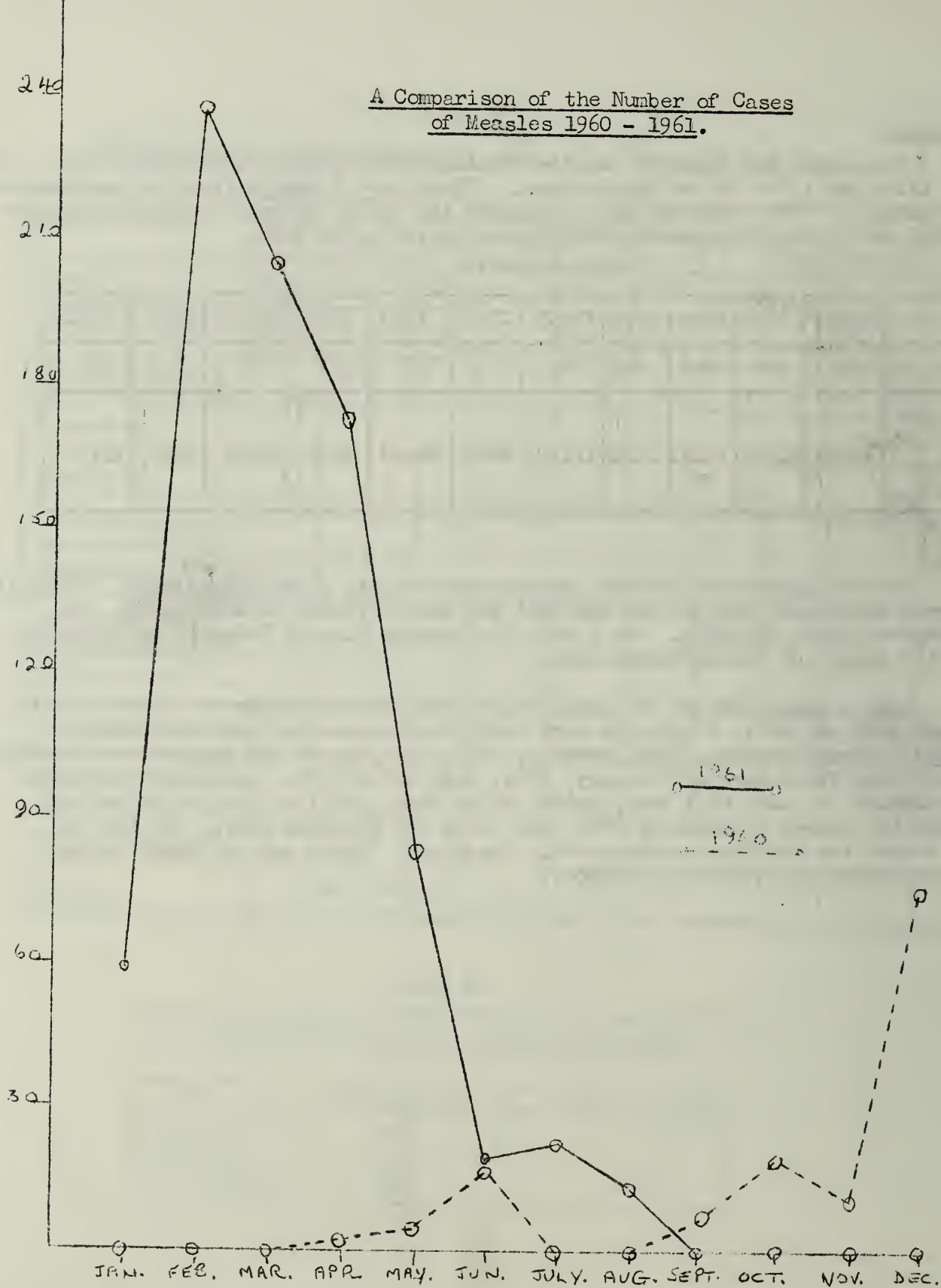
There were 810 cases of measles notified during 1961; this being a case rate of 19.74 per 1,000 of the populations. There were 2 deaths from the complications of measles. The following table compares the number of cases and case rate per 1,000 of the populations over the 10 year period since 1951:

Year	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Cases	673	480	302	213	690	73	670	31	825	134	810
Rate per 1,000 of the Population.	17.00	12.10	7.59	5.33	17.12	1.85	16.49	1.25	20.14	3.25	19.74

Measles approaches epidemic proportions roughly every second year. This is a well recognised pattern and one that has been followed in Altrincham; the exception being the 1953. As a rule the numbers rise in December and carry on to the spring of the following year.

From a comparison of the graph which shows the incidence of measles for the years 1960 and 1961, it will be seen that this disease had been increasing steadily from November, 1960, onwards, until the peak of the epidemic was reached during the first week of February, 1961, with 238 notified cases for that week. The number of cases fell away rapidly after this, until in the second week of June, the number of cases was the same as in the previous year. By the end of August the outbreak was completely subsided. There were no cases in the three months of October to December.

A Comparison of the Number of Cases
of Measles 1960 - 1961.



Paratyphoid Fever.

Three cases of paratyphoid fever were confirmed in Altrincham during 1961, and later found to be associated with a larger outbreak of paratyphoid fever in the Manchester area. Details are as follows:-

Case I.

A young lady, aged 25, living in Timperley, was taken ill with gastro-enteritis on the 11th April, 1961. Examination of her faeces showed the presence of *Salmonella paratyphi-B*, phage type Taunton. Further confirmation occurred when the widal blood agglutination test was found to be positive.

Case II.

A 14 year old girl, living in Altrincham was taken ill with gastro-enteritis, 3 days later on the 14th April. *Salmonellae paratyphi-B*, phage type Taunton were isolated from her stools and blood culture. The widal blood agglutination test was also strongly positive.

Case III.

On the same day as case II, a 15 year old boy, living in Timperley, also fell sick with gastro-enteritis. *Salmonellae paratyphi-B*, phage type Taunton were found in his faeces, and the widal blood agglutination test was positive.

All 3 cases were admitted to Monsall Isolation Hospital and following treatment were later discharged as cured.

All three gave a history of having eaten 'lemon buns' purchased from a shop in Altrincham, but prepared at a bakery in the Manchester area.

Epidemiology.

These three cases of paratyphoid fever in Altrincham were part of an even larger outbreak scattered over the Manchester conurbation.

In all, there were 49 primary cases, 4 secondary cases and 15 symptomless excretors traced. All were due to *Salmonella paratyphi-B*, phage type Taunton. The outbreak was food borne and the vehicle of infection was thought to be these 'lemon buns', made by a bakery in Manchester and delivered to its many branches throughout the area, including Altrincham.

The buns were produced in large quantities and an infected batch must have been produced and distributed to the branch shops just before Easter, 1961.

It was thought that the source of the paratyphoid infection was either infected liquid egg or desiccated coconut; both commodities being used by the bakery at the relevant time.

These raw materials of the bakery trade have been shown on many occasions to be sources of food poisoning outbreaks - due to the ease with which cross infection can occur in bakeries.

It is also well recognised that this phage type of Salmonellae paratyphi-B has been isolated from samples of imported liquid eggs, and more recently from desiccated coconut, when examined at the ports of entry into this country.

Poliomyelitis.

There was one case of non-paralytic poliomyelitis during the year. This occurred in a young boy aged 8 years, who had not been immunised against the disease.

In the 10 year period since 1951, there have been 27 cases of poliomyelitis in the Borough with no deaths. Of these, 17 have been paralytic and 10 non-paralytic. Fourteen cases occurred in 1956, which was the year when poliomyelitis vaccine was introduced for the first time into this country. There were no cases in the following 4 years except for one case in 1958.

This improvement is due to the high degree of protection amongst the child population (estimated to be in the region of 90%).

Scarlet Fever.

There were 20 notified cases of scarlet fever during 1961. This was 5 (25%) more than the previous year. Examination of the statistics for the previous 10 year period in relation to scarlet fever does not indicate any important increase in a disease which with modern antibiotics does not cause any great concern to the medical profession.

Whooping Cough.

There was quite a dramatic fall in the number of whooping cough cases from 36 in 1960 to 9 in 1961. There were no deaths. This continued improvement over the past few years is due to the ever increasing use of triple antigen (i.e. combined whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus vaccine) both at maternity and child welfare clinics; schools and by local general practitioners in the area.

Diphtheria.

Once again, there were no cases of diphtheria in the Borough. Although this is extremely satisfactory, it must not be forgotten that recent outbreaks of diphtheria in other parts of the country show that where the degree of protection falls to below 50%, then there is always the possibility of imported diphtheria spreading within a community. We should, therefore, never remain complacent about this disease but continue to keep up the high level of protection which, over the years, my predecessors have successfully advised.

Pneumonia.

There was an increase in the number of pneumonia cases during the year (23 as compared with 15 in 1960). The majority (17) were over the age of 55 with 9 aged 65 or over. During the year, there were 25 deaths attributed to pneumonia, an increase of 9 over the 16 recorded in 1960.

Both the incidence of notifiable pneumonia and later deaths attributed to pneumonia (mainly in older persons) occurred during the winter months of January to March, 1961, and were due to the increase in respiratory chest infections (influenza A and B) which occurred during this period.

Food Poisoning.

There were only two cases of food poisoning notified during the year. Both cases occurred within one family and were due to staphylococcus aureus. Both cases recovered without treatment and it was established that the vehicle of infection was cold roast lamb, which had been prepared the previous day and left overnight in a warm kitchen.

TABLE VII.

Number of Cases of Tuberculosis Notified During the Year
Ended 31st December, 1961.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1	1	2		
1 - 5				
5 - 15				
15 - 25				
25 - 35	1	1		
35 - 45		1		
45 - 55	3	1		
55 & over				
Age unknown				
Total -	5	4		

TABLE VIII

Deaths from Tuberculosis Registered during the
Year ended 1961.

Ages	Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
	N	I L		

TABLE IX.

Deaths from Tuberculosis from 1945-1950: Average = 15 per year.
" " " " 1951-1961: " = 3 " " - last date when a death.

TABLE X.

Deaths Registered During the Calendar Year 1961 and Causes.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	1960 Comparison.
Tuberculosis Respiratory,	0	0	0	2
" Other,	0	0	0	0
Syphilitic Disease,	0	0	0	2

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>1960</u> <u>Comparison.</u>
Diphtheria,	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough,	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infection,	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis,	0	0	0	0
Measles,	2	0	2	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases,	0	0	0	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach,	6	6	12	14
" " Lung Bronchus,	23	4	27	22
" " Breast,	1	12	13	6
" " Uterus,	0	11	11	8
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms,	19	14	33	49
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia,	0	1	1	4
Diabetes,	0	2	2	2
Vascular Lesion of Nervous System,	32	39	71	92
Coronary Diseases, Angina,	50	18	68	87
Hypertension with Heart Disease,	4	11	15	9
Other Heart Diseases,	29	44	73	64
Other Circulatory Disease,	10	8	18	19
Influenza,	3	1	4	0
Pneumonia,	12	13	25	16
Bronchitis,	21	5	26	22
Other Respiratory Diseases,	2	3	5	5
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum,	2	1	3	3
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea,	0	1	1	3
Nephritis & Nephrosis,	1	0	1	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate,	1	0	1	5
Pregnancy Childbirth Abortion,	0	0	0	0
Congenital Malformations,	3	2	5	3
Other Defined & Ill-Define Diseases,	19	19	38	49
Motor Vehicle Accidents,	8	1	9	6
All Other Accidents,	3	0	3	5
Suicide,	2	9	11	3
Homicide & Operations of War,	0	0	0	0
Totals -	<u>253</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>478</u>	<u>505</u>

DEATHS

Cancer.

It is interesting to record the increase in deaths in the Borough from cancer of the lung, which occurred mainly in men (27 compared with 22 in 1960); cancer of the breast (13 compared with 6 in 1960) and of the uterus (11 compared with 8 in 1960) in women.

Respiratory Infections.

Associated with the increase in cancer deaths is the increase in deaths from Bronchitis (26 compared with 22 in 1960) and Pneumonia (25 compared with 16 in 1960). The increase in pneumonia deaths has already been shown to be associated with the

influenza outbreak during January - March, 1961, (page i).

This general increase in respiratory disease would seem to be connected with the increase in smoke pollution and possibly smoking. Certainly the Report of the Royal College of Physicians on smoking published in March, 1962, has drawn our attention to these dangers.

In addition there were 4 deaths attributed solely to influenza.

Motor Vehicle Accidents.

It is a sign of the times to report that deaths from motor vehicle accidents rose by 33% from 6 to 9. This is an increase of 60% on those killed in 1959 (4). It would seem that this is a statistic which will increase rather than decrease, and it is one that the Borough should try to eliminate.

Congenital Malformations.

It is important to report that there were 5 deaths from malformations during the year. This is an increase of 2 over the 1960 figure of 3. By itself, this may not seem significant, but how many malformed children were born who did not die? Examination of the individual records appertaining to these 5 deaths reveals that 2 of them were of such a nature as to have been compatible with the sort of malformation produced by the drug 'Thalidomide'.

TABLE XI.

Vital Statistics for 1946/1961.

Year	Population	Births		Deaths			
		Total	Rate per 1,000 Population.	Under 1 Year of Age		All Ages	
				Total	Rate per 1,000 Births	Total	Rates per 1,000 Popul- ation.
1946	38,300	680	17.7	24	35.0	412	10.7
1947	38,860	729	18.8	27	37.0	416	10.7
1948	39,570	631	15.9	24	38.0	430	10.8
1949	39,450	596	15.1	14	23.5	446	11.3
1950	39,600	541	13.7	13	24.0	486	12.3
1951	39,640	589	14.5	13	22.1	486	12.3
1952	39,660	557	14.0	13	23.3	443	11.2
1953	39,780	535	13.4	6	11.2	462	11.7
1954	40,070	550	13.7	15	27.3	445	11.2
1955	40,300	565	14.0	7	12.7	450	11.1
1956	40,430	626	15.4	20	32.0	503	12.4
1957	40,610	592	14.4	8	13.5	460	11.5
1958	40,890	673	16.1	14	26.9	482	11.8
1959	40,970	624	15.2	9	14.4	505	12.3
1960	41,180	720	17.5	17	23.6	505	12.3
1961	41,030	705	17.2	16	23.1	478	11.6

Priority Rehousing of Medical Cases.

During the year under review, 49 applicants were rehoused on medical grounds. This is an increase of 16 applications (48%) over the figure for 1960.

Medical Examination for Superannuation Purposes.

During the year under the review 19 members of the staff were medically examined in connection with the superannuation scheme.

APPENDIX I - NATIONAL HEALTH ACT.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

A. Services provided in accordance with the requirements of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

1. Hospital Services.

Controlling Body
Local Hospitals

- Manchester Regional Hospital Board.
- Administered by North West and Mid-Cheshire Hospital Management Committee.

Secretary - Mr. E. Foden,
Administrative Offices,
Altrincham Maternity Home,
Sinderland Road, Altrincham.

Hospitals Serving this Area.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| General Acute Cases | - Altrincham General Hospital;
(Denzell Convalescent). |
| General Chronic Cases | - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford,
Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester. |
| Maternity Hospitals | - Altrincham Maternity Hospital,
Sinderland Road, Altrincham,
"Southfields", Langham Road, Bowdon. |
| Ear, Nose & Throat | - St. Anne's Home, Woodville Rd., Altrincham. |
| Chest Clinic | - " " " " " " |
| Infectious Disease | - Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester. |

A large number of cases from Altrincham are referred to Manchester Area Hospitals.

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II. General Practitioner and General Dental Services.

Controlling Body - National Health Service Executive Council for Cheshire.

Clerk - Mr. F. Hayter,
28 Nicholas Street,
Chester.

III. Services of Local Health Authority - Cheshire County Council.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Ambulance Service, | } | Altrincham Divisional
Health Committee. |
| 2. Immunisation and Vaccination, | | |
| 3. Home Help Service - | | |
| Chiropody for old people, | | |
| 4. Junior Training Centre - | } | |
| (Navigation Road), | | |

5. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics -
 "Mountlands", The Mount, Altrincham.

Hours opening -

Monday - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

"Thornholme", Park Road, Timperley,
 Altrincham.

Hours opening -

Tuesday - 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Tuesday - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursday - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Broomwood Clinic, Timperley, Altrincham.

Hours opening -

Monday - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

6. Domiciliary Midwifery and District Nursing,
7. Dental Service - Expectant and Nursing Mothers
 and Pre-School Children,
8. Mental Health Service,
 Mental Welfare Officer - Mr. Drive
 5 School Road, Sale.
 SALE 2305.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The Divisional Health Committee area covers Hale U.D.C., Bowdon U.D.C., Altrincham M.B., Knutsford U.D.C., and Bucklow R.D.C., and includes members of these Authorities, members of the County Council and co-opted members.

Division Medical Officer - D. Longbottom, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. died 14.9.61.
Acting Medical Officer - E.H. Gordon, M.D., D.P.H., until 28.2.62.
of Health "Mountlands", The Mount, Altrincham.
 (Altrincham 5323-4).

B. Services administered by other Committees of Cheshire County Council.

1. Education Committee - School Health Service,
 including School Dental Service.

2. Welfare Committee

- Old persons - homeless, handicapped persons, - provision for residential accommodation etc.

County Welfare Officer - Mr. Evans, County Hall, Chester.

3. Children's Committee

- Provision for the care of deprived children etc.
i.e. children not under parental care.

Children's Officer for this area - Mr. J.E. Blades,
53/55 George Street, Altrincham. (Altrincham 4301).

Public Health Department,
16 Market Street,
Altrincham.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Altrincham.

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my fifth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectorate and the Cleansing Service.

I would like to pay my tribute to the late Medical Officer of Health, Dr. D. Longbottom, who died on the 14th September, 1961. Dr. Longbottom had been Medical Officer of Health with this Authority since November, 1948. He had a quiet and unassuming character, and in his death I feel that I not only lost a chief, but also a personal friend.

Over the past year there have been no staff changes to report, the only exception being that the Student with the Department qualified and took up an appointment with another Authority.

The Council's Slum Clearance Programme moved forward during the year, when the Minister confirmed the Newtown Compulsory Purchase Order in July. This area included 177 unfit dwellinghouses.

Smoke Control Areas 4 and 5 were confirmed by the Minister, and come into operation on the 1st July, 1962.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued encouragement and support, also my appreciation to the members of the staff for their efficient work and loyal support throughout the year.

Yours obediently,

M. DICKINSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water is supplied to the district by the Manchester Corporation from their Thirlmere and Haweswater sources.

The Engineer and Manager reports:-

Thirlmere and Haweswater Distributed Supplies.

Typical analysis of the mixed supplies, as taken from house taps, is as follows:-

pH value	...	7.1
Colour as p.p.m. platinum	...	10
Turbidity as p.p.m. silica scale	...	0.5
		<u>Parts per million.</u>
Total Solids dried at 180°C	...	48
Free acidity as CO ₂	...	2
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	...	18
Total hardness as CaCO ₃	...	23
Chlorides as Cl ₂	...	6
Oxygen absorbed test, 4 hours @ 27° C.	...	0.90
Silica as SiO ₂	...	2.5
Iron as Fe	...	0.06
Manganese as Mn	...	0.02

This supply is liable only to slight variations during the year.

Thirlmere water is neutralised with hydrated lime at the head works so as to give a pH value around 7 in the town area. Haweswater has a similar pH without neutralisation. The mixed water contains less than 0.2 p.p.m. lead after standing in contact with lead service pipes overnight.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS 1961.

Two hundred and fifty eight (258) bacteriological samples were collected in the area during the year with the following results:-

Total number of samples	258	
Samples free from coliform bacteria	218	84.5%
Samples free from faecal coli	249	96.5%
Samples with faecal coli present	9	3.5%
Samples with non-faecal coli present	39	15.1%

SAMPLES WITH COLI PRESENT.

Number of coli present per 100 mls. of water.	Type of Coli Present.			
	Faecal Coli		Non-faecal Coli	
	No. of Samples.	per cent.	No. of Samples	per cent.
1	7	2.7	27	10.5
2	---	---	2	0.8
3	---	---	4	1.5
5	---	---	3	1.2
8	2	0.8	---	---
13	---	---	1	0.4
35	---	---	1	0.4
50	---	---	1	0.4
Total	9	3.5	39	15.2

The above coliform bacteria were derived from "aftergrowths" in deposits in mains. The higher coli counts were associated with local disturbed mains conditions, such as reversal of flow, flushing, etc. Repeat samples were taken on four occasions (9 samples) and all were coli-free, that is excellent.

On the same days as the 40 samples with coli were taken, 90 other samples were also taken and these were coli-free or excellent.

Of the 40 samples with coliform bacteria, 24 contained only 1 coli per 100 mls. and 29 contained not more than 2 coli, of which 5 samples contained 1 faecal coli per 100 mls.

The water supply has been of excellent chemical quality and very satisfactory bacteriological quality throughout the year.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

Twelve samples of swimming bath water were taken for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory.

INSPECTIONS 1961.

Atmospheric Pollution	103.	Refuse Disposal	17.
Drainage	567.	Rodent Control	106.
Factories	125.	Schools	38.
Hackney Carriages	49.	Shops Act	40.
Hairdressers	52.	Swimming Baths - Sampling	12.
Infectious Diseases	44.	Theatres, etc.	11.
Piggeries	11.	Water Supply	7.
Public Conveniences	61.	Miscellaneous	499.
Refuse Collection	27.		
	17.		

HOUSING.

Housing Inspections	71.	Overcrowding	2.
Further visits	13.	Rent Act	26.
Moveable Dwellings	51.	Verminous Premises	13.
		Miscellaneous Housing Matters	107.

NOTICES SERVED.

Notices Outstanding 31st December, 1960.			Notices Served 1961			Notices Complied With 1961.			Notices Outstanding 31st December, 1961.		
Informal	Statutory	Total	Informal	Statutory	Total	Informal	Statutory	Total	Informal	Statutory	Total
23	9	32	90	40	130	85	37	122	28	12	40

Summary of Repairs and Improvements 1961.

Defective Chimneys	7.	Defective Floors	4.
Defective Windows	26.	Defective Firegrates	4.
Choked Drains	14.	Defective Roofs	23.
Defective Drains	15.	Leaking Rainwater Pipes and	
Choked Sewers	49.	Eavesgutters	18.
Damp Walls	16.	Defective Watercloset Cisterns	1.
Broken W.C. Pedestals & seats	4.	Broken Plasterwork	13.
Defective Watercloset Structures	6.	Perished Brickwork & Pointing	8.
Defective Doors	4.	Miscellaneous	8.

RENT ACT, 1957.

The following is a summary of the action taken by the Department since the inception of the Act:-

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.
Number of applications for Certificates,	54	49	15	6	10
Number of decisions not to issue Certificates,	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Number of decisions to issue Certificates,	32	70	11	8	10
viz:- (a) in respect of some but not all defects,	24	39	6	3	6
(b) in respect of all defects,	8	31	5	5	4
Number of undertakings given by Landlords,	14	40	3	4	4
Number of undertaking refused by Local Authority,	2	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
Number of Certificates issued,	5	45	4	4	6
Number of applications by Landlords for Cancellation of Certificates,	NIL	19	7	6	5
Objections by tenants to Cancellation of Certificates,	NIL	9	2	3	3
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection,	NIL	4	1	1	1
Certificates cancelled by Local Authority,	NIL	13	6	5	4

HOUSING.

The following additional housing units have been constructed in the Borough during the year:-

New Corporation Houses,	60.
New houses other than Corporation,	44.
New units due to conversion,	7.

Inspection of Dwellinghouses During the Year.

Public Health & Housing Acts,	372.
Number of visits made in connection with the above,	279.

CLEARANCE OF UNFIT PROPERTY.

New Street Compulsory Purchase Order, 1956.

All the families in this area were rehoused in the first half of the year after which the property was demolished. Part of the site was redeveloped with 60 flats and maisonettes, all of which were tenanted by the end of the year. These dwellings alter the skyline of the town, being three and four storeys high. The most noticeable feature about this property is the absence of chimney stacks as the flats and maisonettes are all electrically heated.

Newtown Compulsory Purchase Order, 1960.

This area included 177 unfit dwellinghouses. Following the making of this Order on the 28th November, 1960, and its submission to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, objections were received in respect of 11 premises, nine of which were dwellinghouses. The Ministry's Inspector, (Mr. R.H. Evans, L.R.I.B.A.) conducted a Public Local Inquiry on the 28th March, 1961. The Minister confirmed the Order in July, and directed that three dwellinghouses be transferred from part I of the Order to part II, also that payments under Section 60 of the Housing Act, 1957, be made by the Council in respect of the 16 well maintained houses. During the year 60 families from this area were rehoused and a start was made in demolishing some of the property which had been previously purchased by the Council.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Fifteen Demolition Orders and two Closing Orders were made during the year. Five other unfit houses were purchased by the Council by agreement.

During the year two houses were demolished and the tenants rehoused, the Demolition Orders being made the previous year. At the end of the year, there were 29 houses with confirmed Demolition Orders and five confirmed Closing Orders.

FACTORY ACT.

Outworkers.

Twenty people were reported to the Department as being employed as outworkers in the making and alteration of wearing apparel during the year.

Inspections by Public Health Inspectors with regard to Health Provisions.

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections.	Notices.	Prosecutions.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	11	9	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	218	116	4	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers)	16	13	-	-
TOTAL	245	138	4	-

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	From H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3		3	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2			
(c) Not separate	1	1		1	
Other offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to outworkers)					
TOTAL	6	6		4	

RODENT CONTROL.

Regular and systematic inspections and treatments are made throughout the Borough for rodents. Treatment for dwellinghouses is free, but a small charge is made for businesses. The contract system started two years ago for factory and business premises is working quite well. There were 18 contracts compared with 11 the previous year, worth £157. 10. 0. as against £105.

Work was also carried out in connection with the destruction of insect pests, the value of this being £19. 7. 0. for the year. The Department also treats the sewers in the town twice yearly as laid down by the Ministry. The following table summarises the work carried out with regard to rodent control:-

RODENTS.

<u>Type of Property.</u>	<u>Number of Properties Inspected.</u>	<u>Number of Properties Treated.</u>
Dwellinghouses,	177	159
Business Premises,	124	90
Local Authority Properties,	12	9
Agricultural Properties,	4	NIL
	<u>317</u>	<u>258</u>

<u>Test Baiting.</u>	<u>April.</u>
Estimated number of manholes,	2,000
Number of manholes tested,	129
Number of manholes where takes occurred,	13

<u>Sewer Treatments.</u>	<u>April.</u>	<u>September.</u>
Number of manholes baited,	38	39
Total number of takes,	34	10
Number of manholes poisoned,	34	10

The April treatment was carried out with sausage rusk and zinc phosphide bait. This is an instant poison and prebaiting was necessary. The September treatment was carried out with Warfarin and no prebaiting was necessary.

OTHER PESTS.

<u>Type of Property.</u>	<u>Type of Pest.</u>	
Bakehouses,	Cockroaches	3
Other business premises,	"	11
Domestic premises,	"	14
" "	Bugs	5
Other visits,		3

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

The Minister confirmed Nos. 4 & 5 Smoke Control Orders, 1961, with the modification that the operative date for these Orders should be the 1st July, 1962, instead of the 1st February, 1962, the date submitted by the Council.

Smoke Control Order No. 4.

Two acres of land off Deansgate Lane, Timperley, consisting of 27 newly built houses and four existing houses where works of adaptation are required.

Smoke Control Aread No. 5.

Eight acres of land bounded by Regent Road, Normans Place, New Street, The Downs, and Railway Street to Goose Green, consisting of 142 premises of which 60 are new Council flats and maisonettes, all electrically heated, and 19 houses or flats where works of adaptation are required, the remaining 56 being business premises. All the premises were visited and the owners of the various properties were given advice on the alteration or adaptation of the existing fire-grates to comply with the Order. At the end of the year, works of adaptation have been carried out at 3 properties.

Here, I would like to stress the importance of accelerating this work in order to ensure that the gap which already exists between this Authority's smoke control programme and those of neighbouring authorities, is not widened.

MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The Council is a member of the Standing Conference on Air Pollution (Region South West from Manchester) who collect samples from the various sites in the district of participating local authorities. In this Authority, there are 3 lead peroxide instruments, 3 standard deposit gauges and one volumetric apparatus, the latter being in the attic of the Health Department, 16 Market Street, Altrincham, where the readings are taken daily by members of the staff. This apparatus give sulphur dioxide and smoke density readings. Details of the results found in the Borough of Altrincham are summarised as follows:-

ESTIMATION OF DAILY MEAN CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE BY THE VOLUMETRIC METHOD.

MONTHLY RESULTS, 1961 - SO₂ - MICROGRAMMES PER CU.M.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Average	237	172	174	169	135	106	77	72	96	116	305	371
Highest reading	738	581	340	375	237	200	180	203	154	220	981	1645
Lowest reading	31	37	31	57	57	63	6	29	34	29	54	23

MONTHLY RESULTS, 1961, - SMOKE MICROGRAMMES PER CU.M.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Average	380	280	210	230	152	84	67	65	118	192	440	550
Highest reading	770	820	500	490	350	330	170	320	200	440	1520	1772
Lowest reading	130	60	60	70	40	20	20	20	20	50	60	124

ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE EXPRESSED AS
mgms SO₃/day/100 cm² Batch A PbO₂ (louvred cover)

MONTHLY RESULTS - 1961.

Site.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Oldfield Brow	2.88	1.59	1.57	1.47	1.25	1.05	0.82	0.66	0.58	1.02	2.39	3.34
Wellington Rd.	2.41	1.40	1.80	1.23	1.27	0.86	0.78	0.67	0.67	1.23	1.94	2.63
Highways Depot	2.66	1.94	1.89	1.41	1.28	1.11	0.86	0.73	0.95	1.60	2.58	3.11

ESTIMATION OF DEPOSITIED MATTER EXPRESSED AS TONS PER SQUARE MILE

MONTHLY RESULTS - 1961.

Month.	Site		
	Highways Depot.	Oldfield Brow.	Pickering Lodge.
January	15.43	(b)	10.14
February	19.05	(b)	13.87
March	16.92	71.51 (c)	15.89
April	17.00	7.99	18.66 (d)
May	18.97	12.24	29.68 (d)
June	17.40	4.75	14.62
July	18.44	7.17	13.28
August	15.56	6.95	15.80
September	20.05	8.18	14.90
October	15.89	6.46	9.00
November	14.49	7.42	11.01
December	8.98	4.66	6.34

- (b) Gauge bowl damaged.
(c) Bottle contained some garden soil.
(d) Contained some iron rust.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Visits Regarding:-

Number of Visits:

Butchers,	54.
Canteens,	4.
Dairies,	6.
Fishmongers & Poulterers,	14.
Food Preparing Premises,	35.
Grocers,	135.
Greengrocers,	20.
Ice Cream Premises,	196.
Market Stalls,	53.
Restaurants,	17.
Wholesalers,	19.
Fried Fish Shops,	13.
Licenced Premises,	25.

Food Inspected and Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption.

Tins.

2 Jellied Veal
67 Cooked Ham.
16 Lucheon Meat.
79 Pineapples.
56 Pears.
13 Marmalade.
55 Tomatoes.
118 Salmon.
69 Cherries.
37 Evaporated Milk.
8 Pork.
6 Soup.
6 Pilchards.
19 Oranges.
14 Rice Puddings.

Tins.

22 Corned Beef.
13 Ox Tongue.
7 Chicken.
27 Peas.
141 Peaches.
21 Fruit Salad.
3 Raspberries.
75 Grapefruit.
22 Apricots.
26 Beans.
6 Condensed Milk.
16 Strawberries.
6 Fruit Juice.
12 Steak.
26 Miscellaneous Fruits.
13 Miscellaneous Foods.

Jars, Bottles, Packets.

19 Jam.
2 Chicken.
1 Pineapples.
1 Sausages.
3 Cheese.
1 Sauce.
168 Bacon.

Miscellaneous.

492 lbs. Beef.
47 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Margarine.
28 lbs. Cod Fish.
364 lbs. Peas.
100 lbs. Rice.
28 lbs. Lentils.
28 lbs. Barley.
54 lbs. Bacon.
239 lbs. Cheese.
86 lbs. Coconut Mallows.
3 doz. Eggs.
1,180 Marsh-mallows.

Ice Cream - Registered Premises.

Sale of Ice Cream, 127.

Ice Cream Samples Sent to the Public Health Laboratory for
Bacteriological Examination.

Provisional Grading.

1 2 3 4

Wrapped Ice Cream				
(Not Manufactured in the Borough)	30	1	1	-
Unwrapped Ice Cream				
(Manufactured outside the Borough)	-	1	-	-
	30	2	1	-

Examination of Milk Samples.

Samples	Methylene Blue Reduction Test	Phosphatase Test.
Pasteurised 3	Satisfactory	Satisfactory

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

Letter sent to food premises regarding contravention of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 and 1960:- 14.

Works executed as a result of letters sent out:- 18. contraventions.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Four cases were taken under Section 2 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, at the Magistrates Court during the year, after complaints had been made to the Department viz:-

1. A small local bakery having sold a bilberry tart containing a beetle. After hearing the evidence that the firm of fruit bottlers accepted responsibility, the Magistrates dismissed the case against the baker and convicted the firm, imposing a fine of £5, and were ordered to pay £5. 5. 0. towards the advocate's fee.
2. A large dairy having sold a pint bottle of Tuberculin Tested milk containing a foreign body. A plea of guilty was entered and the Magistrates imposed a fine of £5, and £5. 5. 0. towards advocates fees.
3. A large bakery in the Manchester district, with a branch in Altrincham, having sold two apple tarts affected with mould. The firm pleaded not guilty and the witnesses came under severe cross-examination in this case. A fine of £20 plus witnesses expenses, and £4. 4. 0. towards advocates fees were imposed.
4. A local super market having sold a tin of damsons containing a nail. A plea of not guilty was made, but the firm of canners, who pleaded guilty, were fined £5 with £5. 5. 0 advocate fees.

PUBLIC SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

The Management of these premises is the responsibility of the Department and a full-time Attendant is employed. Tolls are paid on a headage basis and one wholesale butcher and one retail butcher are now using the premises.

The Council agreed in principle to erect a new public slaughterhouse after a meeting in London between representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Borough Surveyor, Chief Architectural Assistant and myself in May, 1961. The Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee and the Officers concerned in July. visited Ulverston where they had recently constructed a new public slaughterhouse.

The remainder of the year was taken up with the Architectural Assistant spending considerable time on finalising a suitable plan for a new slaughterhouse.

A hundred per cent meat inspection was maintained during the year, and it is gratifying to see results of the effects of the Government's policy on eradication of Tuberculosis. Only 5 years ago, of all the cows slaughtered, 43.11% were affected with Tuberculosis as against 4.8% in 1961. This is a remarkable achievement, and I am of the opinion that in the next two or three years this disease will not be seen in the slaughterhouse.

Summary of Meat Condemned at the Slaughterhouses During the Year.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	606	125	443	6818	2390
Number inspected	606	125	443	6818	2390
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	2	7	20	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	44	33	2	51	64
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	7.26%	28.0%	2.03%	1.04%	2.8%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	6	-	-	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.16%	4.8%	-	-	0.71%
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Whole Carcases Condemned.

	Cows	Heifers	Bullocks	Bulls	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Emaciation,	-	-	-	-	1	12	1
Fever,	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
Injury & Extensive Bruising,	1	-	-	-	1	2	-
Generalised Oedema,	-	-	-	-	1	4	-
Septicaemia and Pyaemia,	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
Septic Metritis,	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Septic Peritonitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

Summary of Surrendered Unfit Meat and Offal.

	Cattle Excluding Cows				Cows				Calves			Sheep			Pigs		
	tns.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	tns.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
	Weight of Meat Condemned	-	1	-	3	-	9	2	12	2	-	1	5	3	20	1	3 118
Weight of Offal Condemned	-	6	-	19	-	5	2	18	-	2	-	2	-	19	2	3	10

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection.

Once again I am pleased to report that refuse collection continued on a weekly basis throughout the year. A new S.D. Fore and Aft Freighter, adapted to empty bulk containers, was delivered on 17th January, 1961. At the end of the year there were 26 bulk containers in use in the town, and this has done much to facilitate the easy handling of refuse from congested premises.

The Public Health Committee considered the nature of present day refuse and what the effect might be in three or four years time when enlarged smoke control areas come into operation, and in doing so, they placed on order an S.D. Pakamatic refuse collection vehicle. The weight is 7 tons unladen and will hold approximately the contents of 400/450 dustbins. The most important feature of this machine, is that mechanism is used to compress the refuse in the vehicle.

The Public Health Committee also considered the use of paper sacks in the district, and whilst the main disadvantage of this system is the increased cost, they

have decided to include £100 in the estimates for 1962/63. In order that members of the Committee can gain first hand knowledge of the use of this system, each member will have a paper sack at their own home for a trial period.

Steady progress was made during the year with a system of maintenance of the vehicles and two Fore and Aft vehicles were repainted.

The following shows the present details of the fleet operated by the Department:-

No. 11 S.D.	KTU 836	1948.
No. 12 S.D.	RMA 870	1953.
No. 13 S.D.	RMA 871	1953.
No. 14 Bedford.	TTU 552	1954.
No. 15 S.D.	XTU 392	1956.
No. 16 S.D. Diesel.	994 CLG	1958.
No. 17 S.D. Diesel.	98 DMA	1958.
No. 18 Bedford Diesel.	5991 N	1959.
Ford 'Thames' 5 cwt. Van.	JCW 484	1959.
No. 19 S.D. Diesel (adapted for bulk containers)	397 NTU	1961.

The number of receptacles emptied during the year were as follows:-

Ashbins.

Number of premises from which ashbins have been emptied,	751,737.
Number of ashbins emptied,	844,037.
Loads of refuse removed,	5,755.
Loads of salvage removed,	1,159.
Number of bulk containers emptied,	540.

Ashpits and Pails.

Number of Pails emptied,	2,049.
Number of ashpits emptied,	22.

Refuse Disposal.

Disposal continued on land at the Sinderland Road Sewage Works with the exception between the period 16th May until the 1st August, when the disused Dark Lane sewage disposal plant was filled in with domestic refuse. This site is in the Bucklow Rural District Council area and was on lease from the Manchester Corporation Cleansing Department, who agreed to the termination of the tenancy after the sewage tanks had been removed and the site levelled.

Municipal Ashbin Replacement Scheme.

New ashbins provided since commencement of scheme	=	11,845.
Ashbins supplied during 1961	=	979.
Ashbins supplied to new and other Corporation properties during 1961	=	7.

Salvage.

Again there has been a steady increase in the amount of salvage collected i.e. 24 tons 7 cwts. 2 qrs. - £271.19. 10., mainly accounted for by increased waste

paper collected from business premises. Summaries of salvage collection and sale figures for the years 1960 and 1961 are given below:-

	1960						1961					
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Paper,	456	8	3	3423.	6.	3.	466	10	2	3675.	4.	0.
Metal,	19	13	1	121.	16.	5.	20	5	2	120.	5.	3.
Rags, carpets, etc.,	9	14	1	157.	13.	6.	8	16	1	128.	6.	6.
Kitchen Waste,	50	14	0	177.	9.	0.	65	5	2	228.	9.	3.
	536	10	1	3880.	5.	2.	560	17	3	4152.	5.	0.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There was a slight increase in the amount of wanton damage caused to the conveniences during the year.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The public mortuary is in the yard at the rear of the Town Hall, and although it is the responsibility of the Department, is only used on the instructions of the County Police. During the year it was used on only two occasions for the reception of bodies. At the end of the year negotiations were taking place with the Hospital Management Board for all the bodies to be removed to the mortuary in Altrincham Hospital.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Town Police Clauses Act, 1847.

Licences granted to hackney carriage vehicles (including change of vehicles)	-	45.
Licences granted to hackney carriage drivers	-	73.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Licences to keep pet shops	-	6.
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Cheshire County Council Act, 1953.

Registration of Hawkers of Food (Section 144) (1961) - 1 Total Registered	12.
Hairdressers & Barbers (Section 148) (1961) - 7 Total Registered	48.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 50.

This Section places the responsibility on the Local Authority for the burial of persons who have died in their district, and where it appears that no suitable funeral arrangements are being made by relatives or friends. Arrangements were made for one person to be buried under this Act.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Complaints were received about the sale of non-medicated articles after normal closing hours by a chemist in the district. A spot purchase was made by an Inspector from this Department and the Council warned the vendor of the infringement of the Act.
